

CLENCHWARTON PARISH COUNCIL
Ordinary Meeting 16th June 2022

MINUTES – DRAFT UNTIL SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN

Present: S Edwards; R Lucas; R Moate; R Moore; T Moore; K Pell; R Thornally;
D Whitby; A Winter
Absent: A Bell; N Collison; S Bearshaw (see Item 1 below)
In attendance: County Councillor Alexandra Kemp; X members of the public;

1. To consider acceptance of apologies for absence (LGA1972, s85(1)(2))

A Bell (family commitment); N Collison (work commitment); S Bearshaw (work commitment);

Cllr R Thornally was welcomed to the meeting and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda, and applications for dispensation

R Lucas (Item 6).

3. To approve the Minutes of the Annual meeting held on 5th May 2022 as a true record

It was AGREED that the Minutes be approved.

4. To receive reports and updates from County and Borough councillors, and Chairman and Acting Clerk/RFO

Cllr A Kemp gave an update on the Wisbech incinerator application – Norfolk County Council had made an in principle motion to oppose the application. Cllr Kemp noted the new arrangements for meal vouchers and the provision of meals for schoolchildren outside the school term and provided an update on the campaign to refurbish the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and NCC's campaign on numeracy. Streetlights in Robin Kerkham Way – no real progress to report at this time but Cllr Kemp continues to explore ways in which the powers that be could be persuaded to look at installing streetlights. Cllr Kemp further clarified upon questioning that the QE Hospital was not yet on the list of hospitals to receive funding for refurbishment, but that it had a very strong case. Re the Nourish scheme initiated by NCC, no site had been identified as yet for its operation; Cllr Kemp suggested that if Clenchwarton were interested in having such a facility in the village, the parish council should write to the relevant NCC Cabinet member. A further question explored the changes of NCC's constitution, specifically, the ability to hold remote meetings. Such a change of constitution remained the privilege of national Government, and Cllr Kemp also argued that meeting fellow councillors face to face was a valuable element of in-person meetings. A question was asked about the future of the Carnegie library in King's Lynn. Cllr Kemp reported that there was a potential lack of clarity about ownership; NCC contended that it owned the library, but as the library was built with funds from public subscription of residents of KL, there was an argument that the residents of KL in fact own it.

Borough Councillor Whitby noted that currently, legislation requires that councillors be present physically in order to vote at council meetings. He had handed out Jubilee coins to local schoolchildren. At a recent meeting, the QE management had

informed borough councillors they were optimistic of getting funding for refurbishment. The Planning Department was recruiting, particularly in Planning Enforcement. The borough council had received £20million as part of the Government's Levelling Up fund.

5. Open forum, 15 minutes during which time residents may speak on items on the agenda

Cllr Thornally thanked his opponent at the election for a good contest. Ms Beeken thanked him, and hoped that community engagement would benefit.

6. To approve payments schedule for May 2022

After some discussion regarding protocol between Personnel and Finance Committees, it was AGREED that the payments be approved.

7. To approve new Bank Standing Order

Deferred to Finance Committee.

8. To receive bank reconciliation for 31 May 2022

Deferred.

9. To consider professional support organisation 2022/23 (Norfolk Association of Local Councils/Norfolk Parish Training and Support)

It was AGREED that support remain provided by NorfolkALC.

10. To consider planning applications (if any)

None outstanding.

11. To consider and decide upon action re agricultural permitted development planning application, Station Road

Cllr Kemp reported. A new location has been submitted. The parish council held the opinion that the specification of what type of building is involved is not precise enough. Cllr Kemp suggested that the parish council write to Planning Department with its concerns. Specific concerns raised were HGV movements, dust, noise, effects on livestock, efforts to persuade residents to sign documents apparently in support of the application. Cllr Kemp to send email summarising to the Acting Clerk.

12. To receive report from Working Party re Jubilee Garden and agree action

S Fox requested that Item 14 be included within the Item 12 discussion. Many generous residents had given time, money and resources to enhance and refurbish the gardens. Bricks, mortar and sand had been received. Suggestion is to replace one planter with brick and remove other planters to open out the garden into one space. Councillors were supportive. DMG has offered to donate another community noticeboard. Councillors agreed. Primary school would like to fund raise to the play area. Suggestion for fundraising was for benches in Jubilee Garden for parents while children are in the Play Area. To go to Finance Committee. As Chair of the Play Park Working Group, S Fox reported re the existing play equipment, which is known to the Kompan representative. Start date put back to 8th July, but with shorter working period. Play area should be available from three weeks after start date.

Tree canopy needs to be raised adjacent climbing net. Site inspection 28th July, site handed back to parish council 29th July. Agreed to contact Heritage Tree Specialists. Double gates at top end of for emergency access are faulty and currently locked. Action required. Norse to be contacted.

Potential re-use of current equipment. Kompan advises that, due to its age (20 years), the equipment would no longer, if moved, adhere to current safety standards. Kompan will provide a small payment to take the equipment away for scrap. It was AGREED that the current equipment must be scrapped.

Cllr Winter reported re electrical work for light at the garden.

Cllr Pell requested that Cllr Moate post on the parish council website where the name plaques from the Garden were being stored.

13. Football fields – installation of advertising boards/drainage/dugouts/other issues. To consider and decide.

Mr B Hails, chairman of the football club, reported on the requirements. Councillors discussed various issues, including vandalism. It was proposed..... 8 for; 1 against. RESOLVED.

Advertising hoardings. For 6; Against 2; Abstention 1; subject to pricing of additional grass cutting and security concerns. Mr Hails requested that an invoice be sent to the football club.

14. To consider and decide upon re-use of existing play equipment

As above.

15. To consider and decide upon installation of BMX facility

Deferred.

16. To consider provision of new parish council office, to include telephone/broadband provision

Cllr R Moore noted that an office for the parish council in the village was essential. Cllr Lucas agreed, for reasons of security and convenience. He suggested that the Pavilion be a possible location. Cllr Moate agreed that a location in the village would be beneficial particularly for the more elderly residents. Cllr Edwards suggested that it be put on the next Finance Committee meeting, to provide costings. All in favour. **AGREED.**

17. To receive items for the next meeting

As noted above. Posts on Hall Road carpark. Noticeboards.

18. Date of next meeting

7th July 2022

Press and Public Excluded (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1(2))

19. To receive an update on staff issues, and agree actions required

[To be advised by those present]